



## **Mesa Parks, Recreation & Commercial Facilities COACHES' CODE OF ETHICS**

I will place the emotional and physical well being of my players ahead of a personal desire to win. This means that I will:

- Use appropriate language when interacting with players, officials, parents/guardians and spectators.
- Include all players in team activities, disregarding race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, body type, disability, ability, or any other legally protected classification.
- Treat all players, officials, parents/guardians, and spectators with dignity and respect.
- Play all players equally. This includes both playing time and positions.
- Teach my players that it is more important to have fun and develop in the sport and less about winning and what the score is. I will place the emphasis on fun and participation.

I will treat each player as an individual, remembering the large range of emotional and physical development for the same age group. This means that I will:

- Encourage all players, regardless of skill level, to be included as a member of the team and to remain involved.
- Recognize the physical tasks, such as drills, which are and are not appropriate for my players.
- Recognize that physical, social, and emotional maturation vary with each individual player and consider these factors when planning practice and in games.
- Be understanding and patient in that a participant may have a behavioral, emotional, or physical disability that may need additional support. I will contact the league director for assistance.

I will do my best to provide a safe playing situation for my players. This means that I will:

- Maintain a high level of awareness of potentially unsafe conditions and correct or avoid unsafe playing conditions.
- Teach players how to properly perform a drill or skill in order to prevent injury to themselves or others.
- Protect players from sexual molestation, assault, and physical or emotional abuse while at practice and games.
- Use age appropriate equipment necessary to protect players.
- Require athletic shoes and necessary protective gear in order to participate.
- Keep all participants' personal information confidential and only use it for purposes directly related to the league and team. I will never reveal personal details without parental/guardian consent.

I will promise to review and practice the basic first aid principles needed to treat injuries of my players. This means that I will:

- Keep basic first aid supplies available in all practice and game situations.
- Recognize and administer proper first aid to players who are injured.

- Demonstrate concern for injured players, notify parents/guardians and staff, and cooperate with medical authorities when necessary.
- Protect the player by not returning them to the activity if they are compromised by injury.

I will do my best to organize practices that are fun and challenging for all my players. This means that I will:

- Adopt the positive view of a situation. That is, teach my players that it is our basic moral code to treat others, as we would like to be treated.
- Abide by the rules and the spirit of the game.
- Provide an environment that is conducive to fair and equal competition by my players.
- Use my influence as a coach to promote and teach sportsmanship and fair play.

I will provide a sports environment for my team that is free of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all Mesa Parks, Recreation & Commercial Facilities events. This means that I will:

- Be alcohol, tobacco, and drug free at all team activities and in the presence of players.
- Remind parents/guardians to refrain from alcohol, tobacco, and drugs at team activities such as practice and games.
- Refrain from providing any type of alcohol, tobacco, or drug to any of my players.

I will be knowledgeable in the rules of each sport that I coach, and I will teach these rules to my players. This means that I will:

- Become knowledgeable, understanding and supportive of all applicable game rules, league rules, regulations and policies, if not already.
- Teach and require compliance of these rules from my players.

I will use those coaching techniques appropriate for each of the skills that I teach. This means that I will:

- Demonstrate proper technique and help players with their technique.
- Teach techniques that reduce the risk of injury to my own players and opponents.
- Discourage illegal contact or dangerous play and will administer swift and equal discipline to players involved in such activities.

I will remember that I am a youth sports coach, and that the game is for children and not adults. This means that I will:

- Maintain a positive, helpful, and supportive attitude.
- Exercise my authority/influence to control the behavior of parents/guardians and spectators.
- Exhibit gracious acceptance of defeat or victory.
- Accept and adhere to all league rules and policies.
- Fulfill the expected role of a coach and adopt a “children first” philosophy.
- Allow and encourage the players to listen, learn, and play hard within the rules.

BY SIGNING BELOW, I AGREE TO ADHERE TO THE MESA PARKS AND RECREATION COACH’S CODE OF ETHICS AND RECOGNIZE THAT I MAY, IN SOME WAY, BE PENALIZED IF I AM FOUND NOT TO BE IN COMPLIANCE.

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SIGNATURE

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DATE

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PRINT NAME

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SPORT